CFAC Minutes 11/25/2020

Today's CFAC meeting was held to discuss three different proposals: the pullback of unallocated CFAC dollars and two proposal from the Department of Health and Welfare.

Chairman Adams called the committee to order at 11:01 am. All members were present besides Jani Revier and Chantel Greene.

First, Chairman Adams discussed the pullback of unallocated CFAC funds. He stated that the committee will not do anything at this point but will take up this agenda item in December.

Next, Director Dave Jeppesen of the Department of Health and Welfare presented the Departments first proposal for \$5 million to help cover contracts for medical staff, including nurses and respiratory therapists. This money will help cover traveling staff contracts that have risen dramatically over the course of the pandemic and will ensure that Idaho hospitals have proper staff rotation and do not have to go short handed through the end of December. Chairman Adams asked to clarify if whether the hospital would cover any contracts that extended past December, Director Jeppesen stated that the hospitals would be responsible for any portion of the contract that extends beyond December 30. Representative Wintrow asked if the committee could hear how the state was doing on community-based nursing at some point in the future and moved to accept the proposal, seconded by Shawn Keough. The motion passed unanimously.

Lastly, Director Jeppesen presented the Department's proposal of \$300,000 for the Department to enroll and train medical providers to administer the new COVID-19 vaccine in the coming months. With multiple possible vaccines coming, Director Jeppesen stated that each one had its own unique challenges with storage, dosage, and administration that required new training. Tom Kealey emphasized his support for the request. Chairman Adams stated that he apricated Director Jeppesen and his team along with the work they have been doing to help bring the vaccine to the public. Dennis Johnson moved to approve, seconded by Tom Kealey. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Adams ended the meeting stating that there is approximately \$194 million currently unallocated from the CARES Act and that he will be working with the committee in the coming weeks to make sure these are put to best possible use with the December 30<sup>th</sup> deadline approaching.